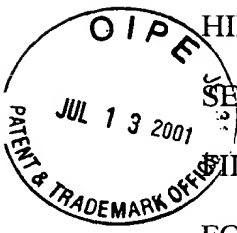


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF: :
HIROSHI IZUI ET AL : GROUP ART UNIT: 1652
SERIAL NO. 09/419,611 :
FILED: OCTOBER 18, 1999 : EXAMINER: TUNG
FOR: L-GLUTAMIC ACID PRODUCING:
BACTERIUM AND PROCESS FOR
PRODUCING L-GLUTAMIC ACID



AMENDMENT AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

In response to the Official Action dated March 13, 2001, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration in light of the following amendments and remarks.

IN THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the specification as follows:

Please delete the original Sequence Listing at pages 31-32.

Page 34 (Abstract), after the last line, beginning on a new page, please insert the attached Substitute Sequence Listing.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Please cancel Claims 3-5.

Please add the following claims: